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PRESS RELEASE

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THREE DISTRICT MEN SENTENCED FOR AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WHILE ARMED FOR 2008 SHOOTING IN NORTHEAST WASHINGTON, D.C.

WASHINGTON - Three District of Columbia men, Darnell Anderson, 23, Robert Davenport, 21, and Obbie English, 23, have been sentenced by the Honorable Robert I. Richter of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to between 8 ½ and almost 13 years in prison for their roles in an April 2008 shooting in Northeast Washington, D.C., Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips announced today.

On April 1, 2009, a Superior Court jury returned guilty verdicts against the three men on charges of Aggravated Assault while Armed, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, and other offenses relating to a shooting which occurred in the 1200 block of Brentwood Road, NE, Washington, D.C., on April 18, 2008. The men also were found guilty of Fleeing a Law Enforcement Officer in a Motor Vehicle for leading police on a high-speed car chase after the shooting. Anderson was sentenced on July 29, 2009, to 152 months in prison; Davenport was sentenced on July 21, 2009, to 102 months in prison; and English was sentenced to 126 months in prison, also on July 21, 2009.

According to the government's evidence presented at trial, on April 18, 2008, two men were walking in the 1200 block of Brentwood Road, NE, when the defendants pulled up alongside them and opened fire. One of the victims was shot two times, including one bullet that shattered his femur. Police in the area heard the gunfire and gave chase to a turquoise Mercury Grand Marquis that was being operated without headlights. After a high-speed chase through residential areas, police apprehended the three defendants inside the car.

The jury found all three defendants guilty of Aggravated Assault while Armed, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Carrying a Pistol without a License, Fleeing from a Law Enforcement Officer in a Motor Vehicle, and multiple counts of Possession of a Firearm during the Commission of a Crime of Violence or Dangerous Offense.

In announcing the sentences, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips praised the outstanding investigative work of Metropolitan Police Department Detectives Carter Adams, Jonathan

Clingerman, Anthony Commodore, Robert Saunders, and Eric Fenton. Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips further acknowledged the efforts of the following members of the Metropolitan Police Department: Officers Tira Gibson, Janice Brown, Salome Wilson, Steven Griffin, Eric Coker, Jeffrey Zumwalt, Michael Millsaps, Mark Lucas, Jayson Cropper, Lindsay Tyler, Kevin Smith, Steven Salsburg, and Charles James, along with Sergeants Durriyyah Habeebullah and Sidney Paul, and lead technician Trina Bruce. Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips also commended Firearms Examiner Michael Mulderig, and the work of Dr. James Cobey of the Washington Hospital Center, and Erica Ames of Bode Technology Laboratories. Finally, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips praised paralegal specialists Antoinette Sakamsa and Baretta Francis for their support, and acknowledged the work of Assistant U.S. Attorneys Keith Becker and Melinda Williams, who investigated and indicted the case, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric P. Gallun who prosecuted the case at trial and represented the government at sentencing.

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